

HOWARD COUNTY ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2015

IN ATTENDANCE: Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Rick Bergin, Meghan Skaggs, Mary Affeldt, Kevin Zheng, Carol Robinson, Bruce MacDonald, JackKavanagh, Jennifer Facteau, Mark Donovan, Liam Donovan and Meredith Beach for Jeff Meyers

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: The meeting was called to order at 5:16 pm. Joan welcomed the board and guests and everyone introduced themselves. Joan announced that Judge Ricardo Zwaig will begin representing Judge JoAnn Ellinghaus-Jones. We wish Judge Mary Reese all the best and thank her for her service.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The January 21, 2015 agenda was approved with an addition to discuss the Opioid Misuse Prevention Grant submitted by Joan/HC DrugFree on behalf of the Howard County Health Department

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The November 19, 2014 minutes were approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

HC DrugFree/Howard County Alcohol Coalition Update: The Alcohol Coalition continues to work through HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council each month to ask for input on underage alcohol use and how to get information into the hands of parents and teens. The TAC members continue to provide feedback and create Public Service Announcements (PSAs) that HC DrugFree is using to get the Alcohol Coalition message into the 12 high school newsletters to parents and as appropriate to the middle school parents.

This month the TAC members drafted language for a Valentine's Day PSA to be hung in the high schools and shared in the electronic school updates. Joan will have the teens' language turned into a professionally-designed PSA. ADAAB members are encouraged to share the Valentine's Day PSA with their distribution lists and/or display it in their offices.

HC DrugFree staff created a list of the more than 50 liquor stores in Howard County, and their high school student intern determined which store(s) was closest to each high school. He then contacted all 12 high school Parent Teacher Student Associations (PTSAs) to have their HC DrugFree Reps deliver the Alcohol Coalition's *Be a Parent, Not a Friend...Don't make alcohol available to teens* fliers to each store to be displayed.

In addition to the fliers and in partnership with the Motor Vehicle Administration and the State Highway Admin, HC DrugFree again received hundreds of wine bags with a sober driving message to promote their *Toward Zero Deaths* campaign. *Be a Parent, Not a Friend...don't make alcohol available to teens* labels were added to each of these hundreds of bags. The PTSA Reps also took these bags to the Liquor Stores to share as they pleased with their customers.

Joan prepared talking points for the parents to explain why the stores were receiving the fliers to encourage parents *not* to provide alcohol to teens and to let the stores know someone planned to return to verify if the fliers remained in plain sight. To express appreciation, HC DrugFree on behalf of the Alcohol Coalition plans to publically name the stores supporting the *Be a Parent* campaign. The PTSAs all responded in a prompt and positive manner and have distributed nearly all the fliers and bags.

With the support of each of the 12 high school PTSAs, Joan will report to the Behavioral Health Administration that Howard County's Alcohol Coalition is reaching the community through parent-driven community efforts.

Joan will email ADAAB a survey from the State to determine how well the Howard County Alcohol Coalition functions. Members should keep in mind the police overtime at the Merriweather Post Pavilion concerts for the past three concert seasons, *Be a Parent Not a Friend* Campaign and the videos targeting parents that HC DrugFree is in the process of releasing through their new microsite and soon to be new website capable of holding the necessary technology. The videos include members of the coalition and others who are committed to the underage alcohol use cause in a variety of ways. If you have questions about the survey, please contact Joan.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy shared the Howard County Health Department's Bureau of Behavioral Health Strategic Plan. Copies were provided and feedback was requested.

Roe informed the board that the Howard County Health Department's Bureau of Behavioral Health is developing a Stakeholder Survey to gain feedback from stakeholders including board members. Feedback from stakeholders will be incorporated into the Strategic Plan and used to enhance programming. Final edits are being made to the survey and once complete Joan will send ADAAB members an email to request participation in the survey.

Roe shared copies of the Updated ADAAB Strategic Plan and feedback was requested. Feedback was provided by members and will be incorporated. The update will be submitted to the Behavioral Health Administration by the end of January.

Lastly, Roe informed the board of two upcoming Overdose Response Program trainings scheduled for February 19, 2015 at 10:00 am at the Howard County Health Department and March 23, 2015 at 10:00 am at the Howard County Health Department. The board was informed of plans to outreach more to the community to promote the trainings.

FOLLOW-UP TO NOVEMBER MEETING PRESENTATION

There was no additional discussion from the November presentation by Dr. Angelino from Howard County General Hospital.

2014 RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARDED TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Joan distributed the 2014 Recommendations she forwarded to the new County Executive in December. At that time and since, she has invited the County Executive to attend an ADAAB meeting(s). The 4 recommendations were:

1. Establish a detoxification program/clinic in Howard County to support both opioid and alcohol detoxification.
2. Follow trends and study ramifications of legalizing marijuana in other states before moving forward to support the legalization of marijuana in Maryland.
3. Encourage current or new private providers to accept private insurance and provide services to individuals receiving Medicaid assistance to help close gaps in service access.
4. Promote awareness of alcohol and drug abuse issues impacting senior citizens in Howard County.

NEW BUSNISS: Joan announced that the 2015 meeting calendar electronically distributed in December will remain in effect. She had paper copies available.

Mark Donovan owner of Congruent Counseling and Integrative Counseling made a request for the Health Department to assist private substance use disorder providers in Howard County to become accredited. Currently there are 3 certified programs in Howard County. Mark estimates a cost of \$20,000 per program per year would be necessary to gain and maintain accreditation. Mark spoke with Anne Towne, the coordinator of the County's Behavioral Health Task Force to request assistance. Anne may contact the Horizon Foundation about funding the Health Department so that the Health Department could fund private providers. Roe offered the possibility of utilizing the Eastern Shore CARF Work Group via conference calls for feedback on the accreditation process or to create a local group with assistance from the Health Department.

Joan provided an update on the Opioid Misuse Prevention Grant submitted earlier in the day to the Behavioral Health Administration (formerly the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration). This grant is to commence in early February and end in June 2015. If Howard County receives this "prevention" grant, a few years of funding to address opioid misuse is anticipated. The State is very specific about how we can spend these funds. We requested funds for police overtime to hold Drug Take Back Days at 10 locations, 4 permanent Drug Take Back collection boxes, and a county wide media campaign that is very specific to state requirements. There will be a countywide survey, data provided by the State, a 4-6 month media campaign to change attitudes/perceptions and educate the community, a second survey, and more data from the State to assist counties as they move forward with prevention/education. If funded, we plan to create an Overdose Fatality Review Team. Currently, the State is not mandating these teams, but if a county has a team, they do mandate who serves (similar to ADAAB).

Joan asked ADAAB members if they were interested in the topic of "opioid prevention" and they enthusiastically said yes. She then asked if they were interested in adding to their duties to become the Howard County Opioid Prevention Coalition (name may change later). A motion was made for ADAAB to become the new Howard County Opioid Misuse Coalition. Motion received a second and unanimously passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next ADAAB meeting will be February 18, 2015 at the Howard County Health Department in the Executive Conference Room at the Health Department's 8930 Stanford Blvd location at 5:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.